RAJYA SABHA

Saturday, the 14th September, 1991/ 23 Bhadra, 1913 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock.

The Vice-Chairman (Shri Bhaskar Annaji Masodkar) in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): There is first 'Papers to be Laid'. Shri Shantaram Potdukhe.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, for the year Ended the 31st March, 1990 (No. 11 of 1991)—Union Government—other Autonomous Bodies

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1990 (No. 11 of 1991)—Union Government—other Autonomous Bodies [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-663/91].

RE. INDIAN STUDENTS STRANDED IN SOVIET UNION

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Now, Special Mentions. Shri Dipen Ghosh.

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH (Bihar): Before that I want to make one mention.

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आज के अखबारों में यह आया है कि भारत के बहुत से ऐसे छात्र जो सोवियत संघ में मैडिकल और इंजीनियरिंग की शिक्षा ग्रहण करने के लिए गए हुए हैं, बहुत से लोग, बहुत से छात्र उनकी संख्या ढाई सौ से ज्यादा है, जोकि वहां पर पड़े हुए हैं और ट्रस्टडैड हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह अपील करना चाहता हूं कि भारत के जो छात्र सोवियत संघ में मैडिकल, इंजीनियरिंग तथा दूसरे विषयों में शिक्षा ग्रहण करने के लिए गए हुए हैं, उनके बारे में बहुत चिंतनीय खबरें आ रही हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Today there is no....

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH: Let there be no zero hour. It is very important. I want to appeal to the Leader of the House that he will convey our feelings; that there should be some inquiry into it.

श्री चिठ्ठलभाई मोतीराम पटेल : (गुजरात) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, इनकी बात सही है। कुछ प्राइवेट कंपनीज पैसा लेकर इनको भेज रही है, गवर्नमेंट को प्राइवेट कम्पनीज के ऊपर एक्शन लेना चाहिए।

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA—ADOPTED

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): I move the following Motion:

"That in pursuance of clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section (5) of with clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960), as amended, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one member from among the members of the House to be a member of the Animal Welfare Board of India in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Shri Purushottam Kakodkar from the membership of Rajya Sabha."

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Only one sentence. When we are celebrating Vinayak Chaturthi, a handloom weaver in particular has died in Andhra Pradesh due to starvation. Sir, we are emphasizing that the Textile Commissioner must rush to that area.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): That you have said already.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: On the festival day, one Pulipakrishna, a weaver in Bhattiprolu village, which is an important handloom centre in Andhra Pradesh, has died due to starvation. This I want to bring to the attention of the Leader of the House. He must try to do something and instruct the Textile Ministry to rush and help.. ..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Those who starve have no festival days— those who starve.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Kindly request the Leader of the House to take note of what I am saying. It is a starvation death which is the worst thing that can happen to a country; especially a free country can never tolerate such thing. The nation should rise to the occasion and go to the help of handloom workers.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: (Pondicherry): I associate myself with handloom weavers. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): The Leader of the House is listening. (*Interruptions*) Dr. Reddy, it is not a party matter. Everybody is concerned. And he will respond to it. He says that there are some starvation deaths. He has got the details. You will please look into it.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Yes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Now, Special Mentions. Mr. Dipen Ghosh.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Opening of IMF Office in India

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am glad that you have allowed my Special Mention. And it is very important and very serious also.

The 'Indian Express' has published a news in a very big way. The Minister of State for Finance is present here. The title itself of the news will underline the seriousness of the issue. The title says: IMF allowed to open office in India, Rao upset— Rao meaning our Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. The news says that the International Monetary Fund has been permitted to open an office in India which is against the wishes of the Prime Minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao. According to highly placed official sources the permission was given by India's Executive Director, IMF, Mr. Gopi Arora, after consulting the Finance Minister, Mr. Manmohan Singh. The sources say that the Prime Minister is upset over the fact that he was not consulted over such a sensitive issue.

Sir, earlier on two occasions the IMF wanted to open an office in India, once during Mrs. Gandhi's time and the second time during Mr. V. P. Singh's time. On both the occasions, Sir, as you are aware, the IMF requests were turned down, were not accepted. Sir, you know today India has gone to woo the IMF to bail India out of the economic mess created by the ruling party during the last forty years and the IMF has been imposing a number of conditionalities and one of them was to allow the IMF to open an office in Delhi so that it can monitor the economic measures taken by the Central Government, to oversee and watch the eco-